(f) whether it is a fact that in most of the cases the courts have upheld the prices fixed by his Ministry;

(g) if so, whether those prices have been implemented by drug companies; and

(h) if not, what are the reasons for this delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (e) The required information is given in the attached statement [*See* Appendix CXLIII, Annexure No. 23].

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) and (h) Necessary steps, as per due process of Law, have been taken to ensure compliance.

Import of Rifampicin

136. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total quantity for which Drug companies applied for registration for the import of Rifampicin during 1986 and 1987 upto 30th April;

(b) whether it is a fact that the import of Rifampicin is allowed under OGL;

(c) whether it is also a fact that his Ministry is not allowing the import of Rifampicin even against export orders for Rifampicin formulation;

(d) if so, whether any such request has been turned down by his Ministry; and

(e) if so, what are the details regarding the provisions of the Import policy under which the requests were turned down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) To the extent details are available in this office regarding the quantities of Rifampicin for which companies sought registration during 1986 and 1987 are as follows:

1986 (1-1-86 to 31-12-86)— 47,815 kgs.

1987 (1-1-87 to 30-4-87)— 850 kgs.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Discontinuing certain provision of DPCO

137. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to discontinue paragraphs 4, 7 and 17 of the Drugs Prices Control, Order, 1979;

(b) whether it is a fact that paragraph 4 of DPCO, 1979 safeguards the interests of drug producers who make heavy investment at different times;

(c) what was the purpose under which each of these paragraphs was incorporated in the Drug Price Control Order, 1979;

(d) what are the details of provisions proposed in the new measures to replace each of these paragraphs mentioned in DPCO, 1979; and

(e) what are the detailed reasons to discontinue these paragraphs and the basis of proposed provisions to replace them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN

THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (e) Details of measures announced by the Government in December, 1986 are contained in the book-let entitled. "Measures for Rationalisation, Quality Control and Growth of Drus and Pharmaceutical Industry in India", copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

New Sealing System for LPG Cylinders

138. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to mischief of LPG suppliers the seal of paper on LPG cylinders probed to be useless and the policy to seal the LPG cylinders with injection bottle type seal, was approved by Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that as per this policy, the Indian Oil Corpodation Limited has started sealing their LPG cylinders as per the system adopted for sealing injection bottles; if so, since when;

(c) whether it is a fact that this new sealing system has not so far been adopted by M/s. Bharat Petroleum Corporation and M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation for supply of their LPG cylinders; if so, the reasons in detail; and

(d) by when this new sealing system will be adopted and the policy will be implemented by both these concerns along with the reasons for delay which is causing an increase in corruption cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) As paper seals were found not to be very effective in checking transit pilferage, the Oil Industry has undertaken the task of developing suitable pilfer-proof seals. Two types of seals, viz., PVC and aluminium seals, have been developed by the Oil Industry and are now being used for sealing cylinders.

(d) It is expected that by the end of the current year all the bottling plants in the country will be using pilfer-proof seals for sealing cylinders and that paper seals will be phased out.

Delay in Clearance of Bakreswar Power Project

139. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an inordinate delay in giving clearance to the Bakreswar Power Project;

(b) if so, whether the Chief Minister of West Bengal has written a letter to the Prime Minister in this connection; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SHUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) The West Bengal Government have requested for early clearance of the proposed Bakreswar Thermal Power Project (3 x 210 MW). The Planning Commission have accepted, 'in principle', the feasibility of the project whose implementation could be taken up after the availability of funds required has been tied up and clearance has been obtained from the State Forest Department for the ash disposal system.

Bhopal Gas Victims' Compensation Case

140. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the latest position of